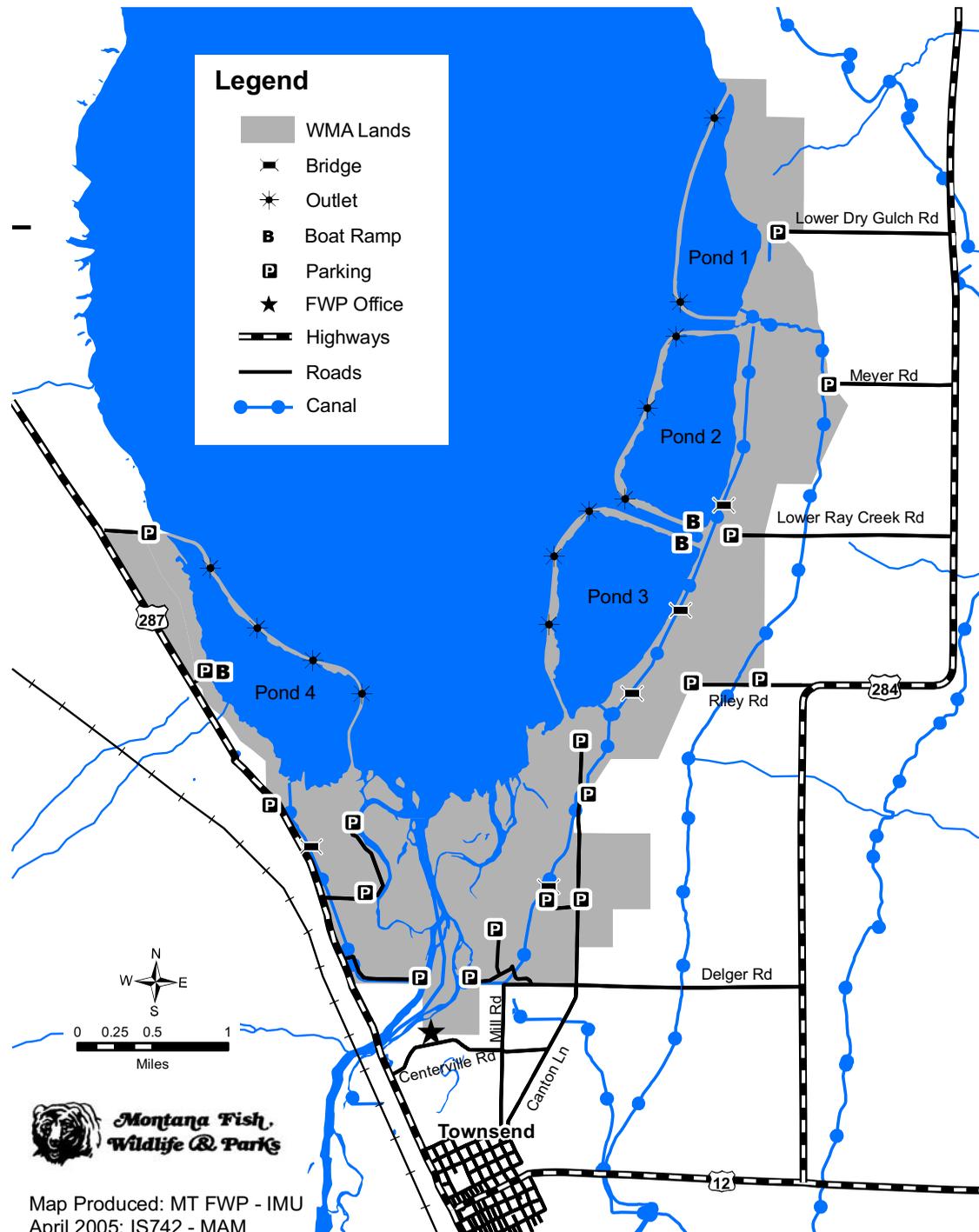


Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area



CANYON FERRY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA CHECKLIST

• ABBREVIATIONS KEY •

STATUS:

- B** – Direct evidence of breeding
- b** – Indirect evidence of breeding
- t** – Observed, no evidence of breeding
- W** – Over wintering

SEASON OF OCCURENCE:

- SP** – Spring, March thru May
- S** – Summer, June to mid-August
- F** – Fall, mid-August thru November
- W** – Winter, December thru February

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE BY SEASON:

- c** – **common to abundant**, usually found on every visit in moderate to large numbers
- u** – **uncommon**, usually present in low numbers but may be missed
- o** – **occasional**, seen only a few times during a season, not present in all suitable habitat
- r** – **rare**, one to low numbers occur, but not every year

FIRST – Average date of first observation

Species	Status	Sp	S	F	W	FIRST
• LOONS						
___ Common Loon	t	r		o		15-Apr
• GREBES						
___ Red-necked Grebe	B	r	o			
___ Pied-billed Grebe	t	o	o			14-Apr
___ Horned Grebe	t	o		o		16-Apr
___ Eared Grebe	B	o	o	u		12-May
___ Western Grebe	B	c	c	c		6-May
___ Clark's Grebe	t	o	u	o		7-May
• PELICANS-CORMORANTS						
___ American White Pelican	B	c	c	c		24-Mar
___ Double-crested Cormorant	B	c	c	c		24-Mar
• HERONS-EGRETS-IBIS						
___ Great Blue Heron	B	c	c	u		1-Apr
___ Great Egret	t	r				
___ Snowy Egret	t		r			
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	t		o			
___ White-faced Ibis	t	o	r			15-May
• SWANS-GEESE-DUCKS						
___ Trumpeter Swan	t	u		u	o	12-Mar
___ Tundra Swan	t	u		u	r	10-Mar
___ Snow Goose	t	u		o		7-Mar
___ Ross's Goose	t	o				19-Mar
___ Canada Goose	B,W	c	c	c	u	
___ Wood Duck	B	c	c	o		27-Mar
___ Eurasian Wigeon	t	r				12-Mar
___ American Wigeon	b	c	c	c	r	20-Mar
___ Gadwall	B	c	c	c		23-Mar
___ Green-winged Teal	b	c	u	c		15-Mar
___ Mallard	B,W	c	c	c	c	
___ Northern Pintail	B	c	u	c		17-Mar
___ Blue-winged Teal	b	c	c	u		15-Apr
___ Cinnamon Teal	b	c	c			9-Apr
___ Northern Shoveler	b	c	c	c		24-Mar
___ Canvasback	t	o	r	o		20-Mar
___ Redhead	B	c	c	c		22-Mar
___ Ring-necked Duck	t	c		o		27-Mar
___ Greater Scaup	t	r		o		
___ Lesser Scaup	b	c	o	o		20-Mar
___ Surf Scoter	t			r		
___ White-winged Scoter	t			r		
___ Common Goldeneye	B,W	c	u	o	c	
___ Barrow's Goldeneye	t	r		o	r	

Species	Status	Sp	S	F	W	FIRST
___ Bufflehead	b	c	o	c	r	19-Mar
___ Hooded Merganser	B	c	u	o		10-Mar
___ Red-breasted Merganser	t	c		r		15-Mar
___ Common Merganser	B	c	c	c	o	5-Mar
___ Ruddy Duck	t	u	r	o		9-Apr
• VULTURE						
___ Turkey Vulture	t	u	u	o		14-Apr
• OSPREY						
___ Osprey	B	c	c	o		9-Apr
• EAGLES-HAWKS						
___ Bald Eagle	W	c	u	u	c	
___ Northern Harrier	b,W	u	o	o	o	
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	b,W	o	o	o	o	
___ Cooper's Hawk	b	o		r		
___ Northern Goshawk	W	o			r	
___ Swainson's Hawk	b	o	o			7-May
___ Red-tailed Hawk	B,W	c	c	c	o	
___ Ferruginous Hawk	B	r				
___ Rough-legged Hawk	W	o		o	c	
___ Golden Eagle	t	o				
• FALCONS						
___ American Kestrel	b	o	o	o		13-Apr
___ Merlin	W	r	r	o	u	
___ Gyrfalcon	t	r			r	
___ Prairie Falcon	W	r		o	u	
___ Peregrine Falcon	t	o	o	o		
• TURKEY						
___ Wild Turkey	B,W	c	o	u	r	
• GROUSE-PARTRIDGE						
___ Ruffed Grouse	t	r				
___ Sharp-tailed Grouse	t			r	r	
___ Gray Partridge	B,W	r	r	r	r	
___ Ring-necked Pheasant	B,W	c	c	c	c	
• RAILS-COOTS						
___ Sora				r		
___ American Coot	B	c	c	c	r	26-Mar
• CRANES						
___ Sandhill Crane	B	c	c	o		22-Mar
• PLOVERS						
___ American Golden-Plover	t			o		
___ Black-bellied Plover	t	r		o		9-May
___ Semipalmated Plover	t		o	r		
___ Killdeer	B	c	c	c		

Species	Status	Sp	S	F	W	FIRST
• STILTS-AVOCET						
___ Black-necked Stilt	t	o	r			12-Apr
___ American Avocet	B	c	c	r		5-Apr
• SNIPE-SANDPIPERS						
___ Wilson's Snipe	B,W	r	o	r	r	
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	t	o	o	u		14-May
___ Marbled Godwit	t	o	o			3-May
___ Long-billed Curlew	t	u	o			9-Apr
___ Greater Yellowlegs	t	o	c	o		9-Apr
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	t	o	u	o		24-Apr
___ Solitary Sandpiper	t	r	o	r		3-May
___ Spotted Sandpiper	b	u	c	o		10-May
___ Willet	t	o	o			3-May
___ Red Knot	t	r	r			17-May
___ Sanderling	t		r	o		
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	t		u	o		
___ Western Sandpiper	t	r	u	o		5-May
___ Least Sandpiper	t	r	o	o		12-May
___ Baird's Sandpiper	t	r	o	u		
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	t		u	u		
___ Dunlin	t			r		
___ Stilt Sandpiper	t		r	r		
___ Wilson's Phalarope	b	u	c	r		8-May
___ Red-necked Phalarope	t		r	r		
• GULLS						
___ Ring-billed Gull	B	c	c	c	o	9-Mar
___ California Gull	B	c	c	u	r	21-Mar
___ Glaucous Gull	t				r	
___ Herring Gull	t	u	o	u	r	13-Mar
___ Bonaparte's Gull	t	r	r	r		
___ Franklin's Gull	t	c	c	o		8-Apr
• TERNS						
___ Caspian Tern	B	c	c			12-Apr
___ Common Tern	t	o	o			5-May
___ Forster's Tern	t	o	o	r		5-May
___ Black Tern	t	r	r			24-May
• PIGEONS-DOVES						
___ Rock Pigeon	B,W	c	c	c	c	
___ Mourning Dove	B	c	c	c		4-May
• OWLS						
___ Great Horned Owl	B,W	c	u	o	r	
___ Long-eared Owl	t	r				
___ Short-eared Owl	t	r	r			

Species	Status	Sp	S	F	W	FIRST
• NIGHTHAWK						
___ Common Nighthawk	t	r	o			14-May
• SWIFT						
___ White-throated Swift	t		r			
• KINGFISHER						
___ Belted Kingfisher	b	o	o	o	o	
• WOODPECKERS						
___ Red-naped Sapsucker	b	o				5-May
___ Williamson's Sapsucker	t		r			
___ Downy Woodpecker	b,W	u	c	o	o	
___ Hairy Woodpecker	t	r	r		r	
___ Northern Flicker	B,W	c	c	c	c	
• FLYCATCHERS						
___ Western Wood-Pewee	B	r	c	r		
___ Willow Flycatcher	B	o	c	r		14-May
___ Least Flycatcher	B	o	c	o		19-May
___ Hammond's Flycatcher	t		r			
___ Dusky Flycatcher	t	r	r	r		
___ Say's Phoebe	t		r			
___ Western Kingbird	B	u	c			14-May
___ Eastern Kingbird	b	u	c	r		17-May
• LARK						
___ Horned Lark	B,W	c	c	u	c	
• SWALLOWS						
___ Tree Swallow	B	c	c	r		25-Mar
___ Violet-green Swallow	b	o	r			10-May
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	t	o	o			5-May
___ Bank Swallow	b	r	o	r		8-May
___ Cliff Swallow	B	u	c	r		6-May
___ Barn Swallow	b	u	c	o		5-May
• PIPIT						
___ American Pipit	t	r		u		12-Apr
• KINGLETS						
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	t			r		
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	t	r		o		
• WAXWINGS						
___ Bohemian Waxwing	W			o	c	
___ Cedar Waxwing	B,W	c	c	u	u	
• WRENS						
___ Rock Wren	t		u	r		
___ House Wren	B	u	c	r		17-May
___ Marsh Wren	B	c	c	o		29-Mar

Species	Status	Sp	S	F	W	FIRST
• CATBIRD-THRASHER						
___ Gray Catbird	B	o	c	o		19-May
___ Sage Thrasher	t	r				12-Apr
• BLUEBIRD-THRUSHES						
___ Mountain Bluebird	B	c	u			19-Mar
___ Townsend's Solitaire	W	r		o	c	
___ Veery	B	r	u			14-May
___ Swainson's Thrush	t	o	o	r		14-May
___ Hermit Thrush	t	r	r			
___ American Robin	B,W	c	c	c	c	
• CHICKADEES						
___ Black-capped Chickadee	B,W	c	c	c	c	
___ Mountain Chickadee	t	r		r	r	
• SHRIKES						
___ Northern Shrike	W	o		o	r	
___ Loggerhead Shrike	t	r				
• MAGPIES-CROWS-RAVENS						
___ Black-billed Magpie	B,W	c	c	c	c	
___ American Crow	b	c	o	o	o	
___ Common Raven	B,W	c	c	c	c	
• STARLING						
___ European Starling	B,W	c	c	c	o	
• VIREOS						
___ Warbling Vireo	b	r	o	r		21-May
___ Red-eyed Vireo	t	r	r			24-May
• WARBLERS						
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	t	r	o	o		
___ Yellow Warbler	B	u	c	o		17-May
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	b	u	o	u		5-May
___ American Redstart	b		r			
___ Northern Waterthrush	t	r		r		24-May
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	t		r			
___ Common Yellowthroat	b	o	o	o		7-May
___ Wilson's Warbler	t	r	o	u		24-May
• TANAGER						
___ Western Tanager	t		o			16-Jun
• SPARROWS-LONGSPUR						
___ Spotted Towhee	t		r	r		
___ American Tree Sparrow	W	u		u	c	
___ Chipping Sparrow	t	o	u	o		12-May
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	B	o	u	o		12-May
___ Brewer's Sparrow	t		r	r		

Species	Status	Sp	S	F	W	FIRST
___ Vesper Sparrow	b	u	c	u		8-May
___ Lark Sparrow	B	o	u	r		17-May
___ Savannah Sparrow	b	u	c	o		5-May
___ Baird's Sparrow	t		r			
___ Song Sparrow	B,W	c	c	c	u	
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	t	r		o		14-May
___ White-crowned Sparrow	t	o		u		3-May
___ White-throated Sparrow	t			r		
___ Harris's Sparrow	t			r		
___ McCown's Longspur	t		r			
• GROSBEAK						
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	b	o	u			24-May
• BUNTINGS-BLACKBIRDS-ORIOLES						
___ Lazuli Bunting	b	o	o			17-May
___ Bobolink	b		o			
___ Red-winged Blackbird	B,W	c	c	u	o	
___ Western Meadowlark	B	c	c	c		13-Mar
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	B	u	c	r		24-Apr
___ Brewer's Blackbird	b	u	c	u		7-May
___ Common Grackle	b	u	o			7-May
___ Brown-headed Cowbird	b	u	c			9-May
___ Bullock's Oriole	B	u	c	r		7-May
• FINCHES						
___ House Finch	B,W	c	u	u	c	
___ Common Redpoll	W				o	
___ Pine Siskin	t			r	r	
___ American Goldfinch	b	o	c	o		6-May
• OLD WORLD SPARROW						
___ House Sparrow	B,W	c	c	c	c	

NOTES:

— BIRDING ETHICS —

You are invited to enjoy this area for your birding pleasure and to support the protection of this and other important bird habitat.

To avoid stressing birds, exercise restraint during observation, photography, recording, or filming. Never approach a bird so closely as to flush or disturb it. Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds, and never use such methods for attracting any species of conservation concern, or one that is rare in your local area.

Keep a distance from nesting and feeding sites. In such sensitive areas, if there is a need for extended observation, try to use a blind or hide, and take advantage of natural cover. Use artificial light sparingly for filming or photography, especially for close-ups.

Stay on roads, trails, and paths where they exist; otherwise keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

Please remember to ensure your vehicle, shoes, and gear are free of weed seeds. The spread of weeds reduces the quality of habitat available to birds and other wildlife.

Be aware of where and how you park your car. Do not block gates, roads, paths, or other access.

Also remember: do not enter any private property without the owner's explicit permission; follow all laws, rules, and regulations governing use of roads and public areas; and practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill with birders and non-birders alike.

Enjoy!



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

**CANYON FERRY
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
DESCRIPTION**

Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area includes about 5000 acres consisting of portions of the uplands and shoreline along the Missouri River and Canyon Ferry Reservoir plus the area encompassed by a system of four dikes within the reservoir. Each dike encloses a 400 to 500 acre pond. The dike system was constructed from 1973-78 to address a serious dust problem resulting from wind action on exposed mud flats when the reservoir level was low. About 350 artificial islands were created within the dike ponds for waterfowl nesting. The reservoir, dikes/ponds, river bottom, and upland communities provide habitat for a wide variety of birds and mammal species. Additionally, the broad river valley is a major north/south migration corridor for numerous avian species.

The dike and pond developments on this WMA were constructed by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation, with financial help for island construction provided by the Sportsmen of Montana and Ducks Unlimited. The area is managed by Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, primarily for hunting recreation, but many other recreational activities are accommodated - including birding. Purchasing state and federal migratory bird stamps is an excellent way for non-hunters to contribute to the establishment and management of critically important wildlife areas such as this.

The species included on this list have been observed by the author at least once in over 100 observation trips, reported by FWP personnel, included on the Montana Bird Distribution Database, or recorded by other observers including George Holton, Paul and Juanita Bray, and others. Observations made from roads accessing and surrounding the WMA were also included.



**BIRDS
OF
CANYON FERRY
WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT
AREA**

COMPILED BY BOB MARTINKA

2005